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Jeffrey M. Nelson
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August 7, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire
Chief Clerk & Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Nancy Hammack v. Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Piedmont Natural Gas Co.
Docket No. 2017-229-EG

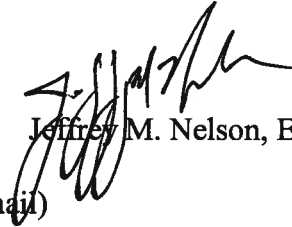
Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has chosen to opt out as a participant in the Commission hearing scheduled in the above referenced docket under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. §§58-4-50(A)(4) and (10) (2016).

ORS has reviewed the complaint of Nancy Hammack ("Petitioner") and has conducted an investigation of the complaint made by her against the Respondents Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Piedmont Natural Gas Company ("Respondents"). ORS was unable to resolve the dispute between the Petitioner and Respondents and considers it appropriate and not adverse to the public interest to opt out as a participant in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns regarding the matter above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Nelson", is written over the typed name.

Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire

cc: Frank Ellerbe, III, Esquire (via E-mail)
William H. Jordan, Esquire (via E-mail)
Scott M. Tyler, Esquire (via E-mail)
Nancy Hammack (via U.S. Mail)
Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-mail)